

SAFARI NJEMA NEWS LETTER 3de of 2007

Dear Friends and Client's

The biggest news that surfaced at the beginning of July, which shocked the Safari Industry into a crisis, was the Tanzanian Government implementing a sudden price increase on all trophy fees and concession fees with immediate effect ... that's right, not next year ... right now!!!

The "new" trophy fee rates sky rocketed and the "new" concession prices quintupled! The price of a leopard increased from US\$ 3500 to US\$ 12000 and an elephant now costs \$17000 (was \$6000) these are an indication of some of the surprises and there are many!! The block fees increased from \$10 000 to \$50 000 meaning that the daily rates will increase by at least \$500. Hunting in Tanzania has now become a luxury that most can't afford. There are other places in Africa that one can hunt ele's at a better price with less red tape and no surprises.

These drastic steps taken by the Tanzanian Government will not only have a crippling effect on every Safari Operator and Professional Hunter in that country, but will also have a major impact on the loss of revenue that each and every hunter was to bring to Tanzania ... Keeping in mind that hunters pay for conservation!! We might not want to think about it, but what do these African Country's actually do with the money? I can tell you from experience that the money does not get to the guys at the bottom of the chain. The problem is, that the scouts do not have the resources to fight these poachers and they are under paid.

Here are some pictures taken from the season in Tanzania

This young hippo cow was still alive when we found her. She had probably been there for at least 5 days. I shot her to stop the suffering and after this we found 4 more along the river, all had been shot or were in snares. This is not the Tanzania and Selous that I knew 7 years ago. The pressures on people living on the fringes of this world famous park is taking its toll on the wild life.



With Dr Paul Detwiler in the Selous, we shot a nice croc of 14 feet. After dragging the beast out of the water, we had some fun with guys and every one enjoyed a party to celebrate the bravery of the guys that retrieve it out of the river.

Paul ended up shooting 2 buffalo and a leopard that we worked very hard for.



Hunting in Western Tanzania in the Kigosi reserve bordering the Moyowosi swamp is always fun. Last year it was so dry that most crocodile's and situngu had died and it was terrible to see the hippos and croc's on dry land. But, this year it is a different story. The swamp is flooded and one can hardly drive anywhere. It can take 8 hours to travel ½ a mile, with us constantly getting stuck in the mud. But the hunting is rewarding if the client is prepared to work hard at it. Mr Osterman shot these 2 buffalo with 5 rounds. The 2nd buffalo was not completely hard but what a perfect set of horns. We retrieved 2 slugs from a muzzleloader out of the old dagga boy.



Then came the highlight of my whole hunting career, and probably the biggest elephant that will be taken in Tanzania this year..... 81 and 78 pounds a side!! We were driving along and saw 3 elephant from a far. Getting off the vehicle and walking towards them, it looked to me as if they were all young. However, I had not seen the 4th and as I turned around to walk back to the vehicle, my tracker nearly ripped my arm off yelling BWANA ANGALIA TEMBU KUBWA SANA (Sir look very big elephant). What an understatement.... It was indeed a "big one"! We waited as they made for the edge of the Miombo and then Siegfried fired from his 416 rem Blaser. It took a few shots to drop him, but that's quite normal if you don't brain them. The result was this magnificent elephant. The sad part was that we found 9 bullets from poachers, dotted all over his body.



I don't know why, but hunting with the Masons always delivers some exiting moments and great trophies. The last time I hunted with JD we shot a monster leopard and a buffalo at 9 yards. Well this year it was not any different. JD shot his buffalo at 12 yards, but this time through very thick bush. As usual JD made a great brain shot



I'm currently at home for a short break to prepare for the final run of the season. I trust that you are all well. I will be planning our trip to the USA and will notify you of my itinerary as soon as it is confirmed.

Until then... happy hunting.....!

The PH Computer Dictionary

- Download - Get the firewood off the hunting truck
- Hard drive - Trip back home without any cold beer
- Window - What you shut when it's cold
- Screen - What you shut in the mosquito season
- Byte - What mosquitoes do
- Bit - What mosquitoes did
- Mega Byte - What mosquitoes at the lake do

Best regards

SAFARI NJEMA "SAFE JOURNEY"

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